

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
125 East Avenue
P.O. Box 5125
Norwalk, CT 06856**

TO: MEMBERS, ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL

FROM: JOSH GOLDSTEIN, CHAIRMAN

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2023

RE: MEETING NOTICE

The Regular Meeting of the Economic & Community Development Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7:00pm. To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone, Zoom, and/or the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at www.norwalkct.org/meetings.



Members of the public can call in and listen to a meeting. They will not be able to speak or see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. Please find the information using the link above.



Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" will need to register in advance and use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the "raise your hand indicator" and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. Please find the information using the link above.



Members of the public who wish to view the meeting, but are not participating, can view a live stream on the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. This stream is delayed by approximately 20 seconds. Please find the information using the link above. The meeting recording and minutes will be posted on the City of Norwalk website within seven (7) days after the meeting.



Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Maritza Alvarado at malvarado@norwalkct.gov to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2023 @ 7:00PM
AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER
ROLL CALL
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of November 2, 2023 meeting.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY, AND PARKING

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling to execute an agreement between the City of Norwalk and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) to receive \$800,000 in 2023 Community Connectivity Grant Construction Funding related to the Hospital Hill Village Safety Enhancements.

B. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a contract with Rough Edge Collective Inc. for the completion of the Monroe Street Underpass Mural in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

**ACCT: 0922-3760-5777
0923-3760-5777**

2. Business Development and Tourism project updates.

C. REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

1. Redevelopment Agency project updates.

D. PLANNING AND ZONING

1. Planning and Zoning project updates.

III. OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF NORWALK
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
VIA TELECONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 2, 2023**

ATTENDANCE: John Kydes, Chair: Bryan Meek, Barbara Smyth,
Darlene Young (7:10 p.m.)

OTHERS: Diana Revolus, Common Council member

STAFF: Sabrina Godeski, Director of Business Development and Tourism

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kydes called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Kydes called the Roll as indicated above.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public who wished to participate this evening.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. BUILDING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE
TO CREATE A NON-LAPSING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND ACCOUNT TO
RECEIVE FUNDS, SPONSORSHIPS, AND DONATIONS FOR**

**NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUPS THAT CAN ONLY BE USED ON FUTURE OR
CURRENT NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES.**

Ms. Godeski reviewed the item and explained that the point of the account is to accept donations and make sure they are tied specifically to neighborhood improvement initiatives.

Mr. Kydes will bring this item to the full Common Council.

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$53,992.40 TO
PURCHASE 20 GARBAGE CAN SETS FROM RECYCLE AWAY, LLC. VIA
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT.
ACCT: 530000-5776**

Ms. Godeski explained they replaced a few of the garbage stations in South Norwalk and on Wall Street and West Avenue and are replacing the black that had rusted. She said the dual stations would have black cans for regular garbage and blue cans for recycling. Ms. Godeski stated the new cans were improved and that they had rain guards and locking mechanisms, and contained the garbage better than the previous cans. She then explained this was a second phase of the project as some areas of Wall St., North Main, South Main, and West Avenue were done and the additional cans were there to slowly replace older cans.

Mr. Kydes asked if he was correct that the funding came from the nip bottles that are taxed separately. Ms. Godeski indicated yes. Ms. Smyth then asked Ms. Godeski how far into Norwalk those cans go. Ms. Godeski responded that they only go as far as the police station area and all the way up and down Washington Street. She then stated the older cans go deeper into South Norwalk along Ryan Park, new neighborhood streets, and on Wall Street, and West Avenue because there weren't enough stations to replace them all. The goal was to eventually replace them all with the dual can stations with the rain hood and locking mechanism.

Ms. Young joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m. A Quorum was now present.

Ms. Godeski continued saying the current cans were fine but there were issues with rain and trash overflow. She said the goal was to replace all the cans and the advertisement signs but they were keeping some of the older cans because they're still in good condition.

Mr. Meek questioned the \$1350 per garbage can cost. Ms. Godeski explained they looked into multiple manufacturers and this is the only one that services the area. In addition, Public Works strongly recommended they have ones with both rain hoods and locking mechanisms which increase cost. She also indicated that the older cans were almost the same price.

Mr. Meek wanted to see what the garbage can looked like. Ms. Godeski said they are located all along Washington Street and offered to bring up an image as well. Mr. Meek stated he would look at them before the council meeting.

**** MOTON PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. MEEK)**

B. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH ARC SOUND. STAGE. LIGHTING. FOR PURCHASING PROJECT 4323 STAGE, LIGHTING, AND SOUND SERVICES FOR NORWALK HOLIDAY EVENTS FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000.**

ACCT: 0924-3780-5777-C0680

AND TO AUTHORIZE THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM DIRECTOR TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED

\$3,000, 10% OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT COST.

ACCT: 0924-3780-5777-C0680

Ms. Godeski indicated that they had gone out to bid for a sound stage and lighting services for two holiday events that had previously been paid for by the Parking Authority. She explained the City was taking over the management of these events in their entirety. Ms. Godeski indicated that they had bid for both the Wall Street and the south Norwalk, 50 Washington Street events. The bid included a sound stage, lighting DJs, barricades, generators and spotlights for repelling Santa. She indicated they received three bids. Ms. Godeski said the bid out of New York was astronomical requiring the purchasing of items that could be rented. She stated that the other two bids one of \$44,000 from the Norwalk Conservatory of the Arts and the \$30,000 for Ark were more on par with each other.

Ms. Godeski indicated \$30,000 dollars was recommended by the purchasing department and through the Business Development and Tourism Office and that they had worked with Ark before. She stated they were the most cost effective for what they were providing.

Ms. Smyth noted that the Parking Authority paid last year but the cost was significantly higher with Ark and they were getting quite a deal.

Ms. Godeski indicated that last year was around \$38,000. She stated Ark was questioned about the difference for the exact same event and Ark's response was they now know what to expect and what they are doing. She remarked that Ark added a bit more to the bill that they didn't necessarily need this time.

Ms. Godeski stated the Halloween event was so expensive because it had entertainment, the sound stage lighting, pyrotechnics, and items they had on stage for the DJs. She noted that all that accounted for a little less than half and was around the same price they were looking at. She went on to say when the entertainment, The Good Boys, Laid Back, and Luke and Brian Cabrera were added into the bill it accounted for the \$75,000. Ms. Godeski added that for this event they were using local talent, choirs from the schools and some dance academies. She noted they do make donations to those individuals, but aren't paying thousands of dollars. She finished by saying the entertainment was terrific and the event drew a lot of people. Ms. Smyth thanked Ms Godeski and reiterated that the event was terrific and drew a lot of people.

Mr. Meek posed a question about the Halloween event noting there were highway trucks and Police sitting in their cars and wanted to know who was picking up the overtime for those services. He asked if it came from local grants or out of departmental expenditures. Ms. Godeski stated they paid for all of that through the special events budget and doesn't come out of the Police operating budget. She further explained they were using ARPA dollars and capital dollars. Those are all included in that so that pays for EMS, police, any extra staff time from individual departments such as DPW, transportation, parking, mobility was done during normal working hours so there was no extra cost. Ms. Godeski continued saying, the police that were there for extra staff services were all paid through the separate events budgets. Mr. Meeks then asked if it was separate from the entertainment and vendors. Ms. Godeski indicated yes.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. MEEK)**

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE TO CREATE A NON-LAPSING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND ACCOUNT TO RECEIVE FUNDS, SPONSORSHIPS, AND DONATIONS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS THAT CAN ONLY BE USED ON FUTURE OR CURRENT SPECIAL EVENT EXPENSES.**

At 7:15 pm Mr. Meeks left the meeting.

Ms Godeski explained that the account being created is for funds generated by ticket sales to recoup costs from an event and for planning future events. She referred to it as a lock box for donations received for special events and through special events that would go directly back into the account.

At 7:41 pm Mr. Meeks returned to the meeting.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE COMPTROLLER’S OFFICE TO
CREATE A NON-LAPSING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND ACCOUNT TO RECEIVE
FUNDS, SPONSORSHIPS, AND DONATIONS FOR THE ARTS AND CULTURAL
DISTRICT AND THE ARTS AND CULTURAL DISTRICT COMMISSION IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY OF NORWALK ORDINANCE CHAPTER 17A:
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION.**

Ms. Godeski indicated that the Arts and Cultural Commission ordinance went through the Common Council. She explained part of the ordinance creates a special fund account, a lock box for funds acquired through fund raising, and ticket sales within the Cultural District itself.

Ms. Godeski stated that the ordinance lays out parameters as to how much money before they have to go to council, and what they can spend that money on directly. She stated this process was putting the ordinance in reality and creating an actual account through the Comptrollers office.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

An unidentified participant indicated she was on a little late and gave kudos to Ms. Godeski and the team for an amazing first time Halloween. She stated it was a win win for the city and restaurants as well. Ms. Godeski thanked the group, thanked them for coming out to cut the

ribbon, saying she couldn’t have done it without them. She said they saw about 4000 people. Ms. Smyth added that these holiday events are what make the city groovy. Ms. Smyth then thanked Ms. Godeski and the team. Ms. Godeski responded that she appreciated it, and stated she couldn’t take all the credit and mentioned the work done by the events coordinator Anna and how she was a great addition to the team.

Mr. Meeks then thanked John Kydes for his service. Ms. Smyth also thanked Mr. Kydes for his service.

III. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

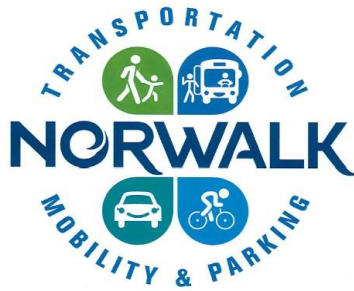
There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

City of Norwalk
Economic And Community Development
Committee of The Common Council
Regular Meeting
Via Teleconference
November 2, 2023
Page 5

China Mayhew
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Norwalk
Economic And Community Development
Committee of The Common Council
Regular Meeting
Via Teleconference
November 2, 2023
Page 6



CITY OF NORWALK
Transportation Mobility & Parking
P: 203-854-7260
Norwalk City Hall
125 East Avenue, PO Box 5125
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125

TO: Norwalk Economic and Community Development Committee

FROM: Garrett Bolella, P.E., PTOE, RSP1, Assistant Director Transportation

CC: James Travers, Director
Greg Pacelli, Transportation Planner

REF: Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling to execute an agreement between the City of Norwalk and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT)

DATE: November 27th, 2023

Memorandum

Transportation, Mobility and Parking was recently informed that the City's application for the 2023 Community Connectivity Grant Program (CCGP) has been selected to receive \$800,000 in funding, the maximum amount of construction funding available under this program. The CCGP is a competitive grant program which awards funding to municipalities in an effort to make Connecticut's roads safer and more accessible for our most vulnerable road users. It should be noted that Norwalk's application was the highest scoring application reviewed by CTDOT.

Funding for this project will be utilized to create a vibrant village center in the Hospital Hill area through a better alignment of roadways and amenities. In addition to streetscape improvements at the intersection of Stevens Street and Stuart Avenue, the project will provide pedestrian amenities, public space, and lighting upgrades. The city plans to realign this higher crash intersection, creating safety improvements and a new village parking lot to support local business and increase pedestrian activity.

We respectfully request that the Council:

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling to execute an agreement between the City of Norwalk and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) to receive \$800,000 in 2023 Community Connectivity Grant Construction Funding related to the Hospital Hill Village Safety Enhancements.

Attachments: Award Notice, Concept Plan



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

Phone: (860) 594-2139

November 15, 2023

Honorable Harry W. Rilling
Mayor
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851
hrilling@norwalkct.gov

Dear Mayor Rilling:

Subject: **Award Notice - 2023 Community Connectivity Grant**
Hospital Hill Village Safety Enhancements

It is my pleasure to inform you that your application for the 2023 Community Connectivity Grant Program (CCGP) has been selected for funding. Congratulations on your Grant award, and many thanks for your effort to make Connecticut's roads safer and more accessible for vulnerable users. Funding for this Program was authorized by the Connecticut General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Ned Lamont. This round of awards was provided funding by the State Bond Commission on October 6, 2023, and will be administered by the Department of Transportation, Bureau of Policy & Planning, Office of Strategic Planning & Projects (Department). Please remember that this award is based on the project that was submitted in your application; therefore, to receive these funds, no other project can be substituted. Also, as a reminder, your municipality requested \$ 800,000.00 dollars for this project, which is the maximum amount of construction funding available for this grant.

I ask that you contact me no later than Friday, December 8, 2023 to confirm that your municipality wishes to accept the funding and proceed with the CCGP process. An e-mail response to the CCGP address CTDOT.CCGP@ct.gov is preferred. If no response is received, your award may be reallocated to another municipality.

It is also important to **designate a Municipal point of contact (including their Title, telephone number and e-mail address)** when you send in your confirmation so that we can communicate with this person as we advance in the project administration.

There are several steps that need to be taken by both the Department and your municipality, prior to the distribution of funds. **Please do not proceed with any grant-funded (construction) work until all contracting items have been fully executed.** Steps include the following:

- The Department will assign a Project Manager and Issue a Commitment to Fund Letter (CFL) which must be signed and returned to the Department.

- The Department will perform an environmental screening to assist the municipality in achieving compliance with the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) and identify items relative to natural resources, historic/archaeological resources, Flood Management and Regulated Contaminated Materials requirements, etc. that are to be investigated and/or addressed during the design phase. Please note that the Municipality is responsible for obtaining all applicable permits and providing all information and/or analyses that may be needed for a specific permit.
- The municipality is responsible for developing a project design and submitting a Final Design Package for the Department for review. Requirements for the Final Design Package can be found in section 2.2 of the CCGP Program Guidelines located on our website: [CCGP Program-Guidelines-V0301 March-2023-w-Appendix.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#)
- The Department, upon approval of the final design package, will authorize the Municipality to advertise the project for construction bids.
- The Municipality, following the opening of the bids, will submit a recommendation for award to the Department.
- The Department, upon receipt of the recommendation for award, will forward, for signature by the Municipality, a Project Authorization Letter (PAL) pursuant to the executed Master Municipal Agreement for Construction Projects. The PAL will serve as the project agreement between the State and the Municipality for the construction phase and will specify the approved grant amount, as well as identify any other requirements such as maintenance of project-specific features, etc. The PAL will also trigger the in-full grant payment to the Municipality.

Please take note:

- Grant funds may only be used for construction activities, as outlined in the CCGP Program Guidelines.
- All construction phase costs above the allocated grant amount are the sole responsibility of the municipality.

Congratulations again, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact David Elder at 860-594-2139, or via email at David.Elder@ct.gov.

Very truly yours,

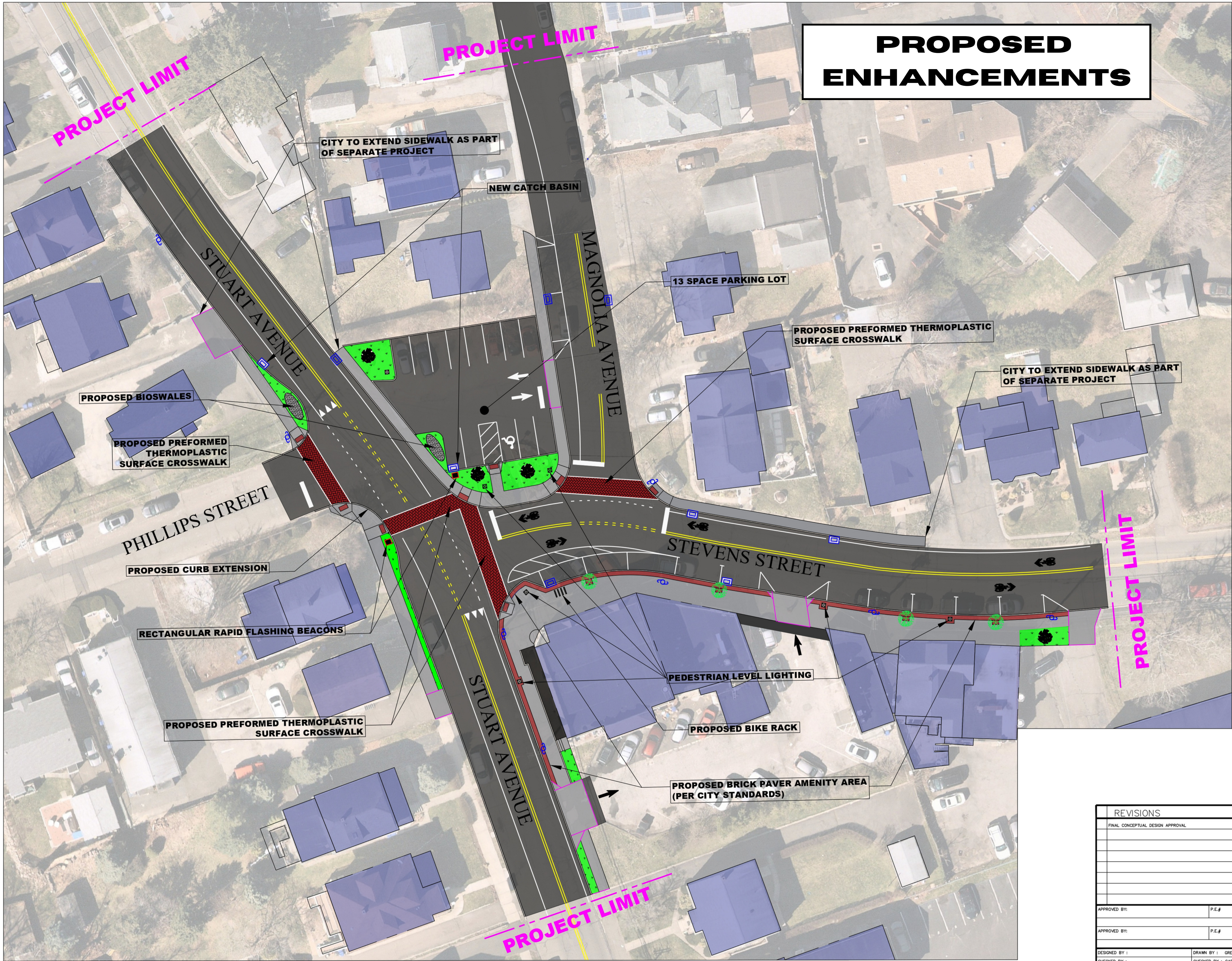
Kevin Carifa
Transportation Planning Director
Bureau of Policy & Planning



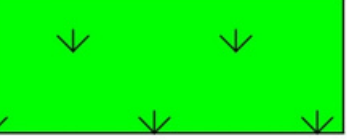
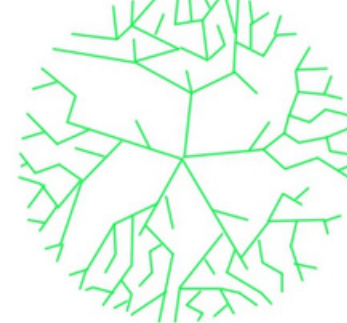
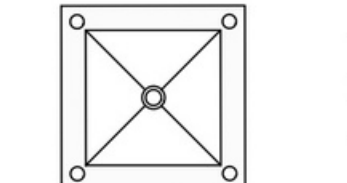
**EXISTING
CONDITIONS**

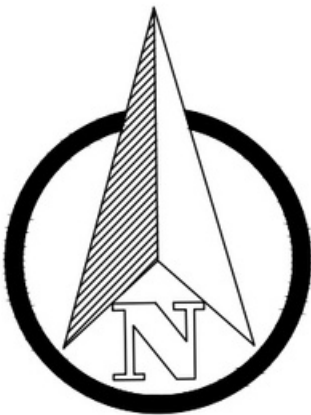
REVISIONS		DATE	BY
APPROVED BY:		P.E.#	DATE
APPROVED BY:		P.E.#	DATE
DESIGNED BY:		DRAWN BY:	
CHECKED BY:		CHECKED BY:	

CITY OF NORWALK	
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY, AND PARKING	
HOSPITAL HILL VILLAGE EXISTING CONDITIONS	
DATE :	TMP PROJ. :
SCALE : 1" = 20'	SHEET 1



LEGEND

-  CONCRETE SIDEWALK
-  NEW ROADWAY PAVEMENT
-  GRASS SPACE
-  PREFORMED THERMOPLASTIC
-  CONCRETE CURB
-  NEW TREE
-  NEW STREET TREE
-  PEDESTRIAN LEVEL LIGHTING



REVISIONS				DATE	BY
FINAL CONCEPTUAL DESIGN APPROVAL				07-14-23	GP
APPROVED BY:				P.E.#	DATE
APPROVED BY:				P.E.#	DATE
DESIGNED BY:				DRAWN BY: GREG PACELLI	
CHECKED BY:				CHECKED BY: GARRETT BOLELLA P.E.	

CITY OF NORWALK	
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY, AND PARKING	
2023 CT DOT CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY GRANT SUBMISSION	
HOSPITAL HILL VILLAGE SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS	
DATE : JULY 14th, 2023	TMP PROJ. :
SCALE : 1" = 20'	SHEET 1



City of Norwalk
Business Development & Tourism
125 East Avenue, Room 122
Norwalk, CT 06851

TO: MEMBERS OF THE NORWALK COMMON COUNCIL

FROM: SABRINA GODESKI, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM; STAFF TO THE ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMISSION

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2023

SUBJECT: MONROE STREET UNDERPASS MURAL APPROVAL

In Spring 2022, the Arts and Cultural Commission released a call for artists to contribute to the enhancement of the Monroe Street Underpass in South Norwalk. We were pleased to receive an overwhelming response, with over 50 submissions from talented artists. After careful consideration, the Arts and Cultural Commission has selected MJ and Josh Lindo-Lawyer as the preferred artists for this transformative project.

Regrettably, the timeline for the project was initially affected by delays in obtaining state permits required for its completion. However, the artists have diligently worked to overcome these challenges and have successfully completed the necessary application process and are now on track for the installation of the mural in Spring 2024.

The chosen artists, MJ and Josh Lindo-Lawyer, bring a wealth of creative talent and a unique vision to this project. Their work not only aligns with the cultural diversity and vibrancy of South Norwalk but also promises to be a captivating addition to the city's public art landscape. Their expertise in larger-than-life-sized murals will add an amazing asset to the City of Norwalk.

As the project progresses, it is anticipated that the mural will not only serve as a testament to the rich artistic community in our city but also contribute significantly to the overall aesthetic appeal and cultural identity of South Norwalk.

The Commission is requesting that the \$50,000 contract for the project be approved early as this allows time for the artists to book flights and accommodations that are cost effective for the Spring installation.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a contract with Rough Edge Collective Inc. for the completion of the Monroe Street Underpass Mural in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

ACCT: 0922-3760-5777
0923-3760-5777

